him, whereas their mercenary tongues (he they never so loudly) without check or control must have their free passage for five hours together'

ijth January COURT NEWS.

The Earl of Essex's journey for Ireland is somewhat prolonged, for his victuallers that had order to make their provisions for February are now put over till March He sh«dl carry a great troup of gallants with him, if all go that are spoken of, as the Earls of Derby, Rutland and Southampton, the Lords Windsor, Grey, Audley and Cromwell, besides Knights sans number Many that wish well to the journey have no great conceit of it, seeing so many raw youths press for the greatest charge The Duke of Florence hath barred our nation from traffic in his territories, and it is feared the Venetians and French King will serve us in the same sort The Queen is very angry with Sir Thomas Gerrard for the escape of one Blackwell, an archpnest, out of the Marshalsea

The news now cornes very hot that Sebastian Kmg of Portugal, that was said to be slain in the battle in Barbary in 1578, is now at Venice and hath made so good trial of himself that the Venetians allow him, and maintain almost fourscore persons about him at their charge They say he tells very strange stories^ how he with fourteen more escaped from the battle and got up into the mountains, and so by many adventures, he went and he went until he came into Ethiopia, or Prester John's land, meaning from thence to have gone into the East Indies, but understanding that they were yielded and sworn to the King of Spain, durst not proceed, but turned back again, and *per tot dtscrimma* in this long pilgrimage (wherein he

hath been taken,
bought and sold twelve or fourteen times) got at
last to Venice,
where he tells them all that was negotiated
betwixt him and
them by letters or ambassadors, since he was of
any good re-
membrance, and that with so many particulars as
are thought
infallible testimonies Besides it is said that his
confessor is
come out of Portugal, and upon conference with
him avoweth
all to be true that he saith, touching what passed
between them
in confession, both at other times, and specially
the day before
the battle